



CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

Worldwide Conferences

CENTENARY OF THE ASCENSION OF 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

2022



DOCUMENT THEMES

Theme 1: Bahá'u'lláh's vision for humanity

Goal: to understand the concept of oneness of humanity

Theme 2: Distance traversed

Goal: to realise that we can learn from the past to plan the future

Theme 3: Building vibrant communities

Goal: to create environments with both worship and service

Theme 4: Education endeavours

Goal: to realise that learning and service is a lifelong occupation

Theme 5: Contributing to social transformation

Goal: to identify and respond to needs in our areas

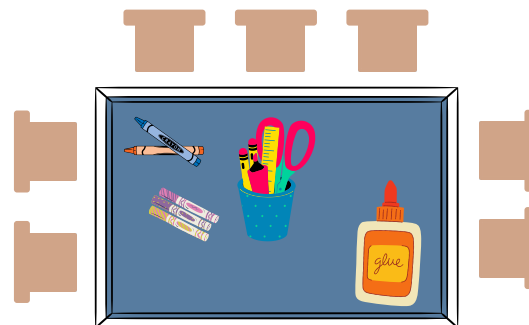
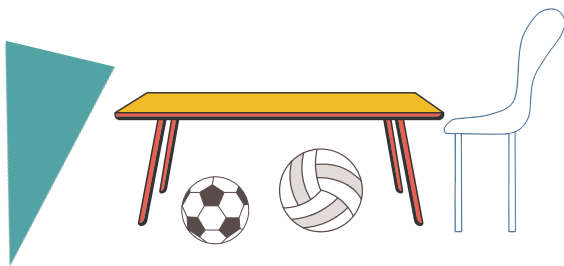
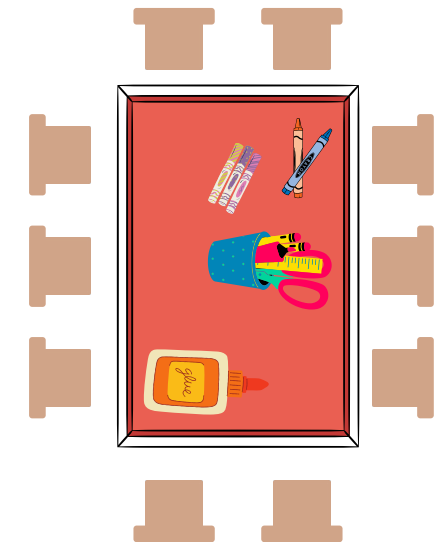
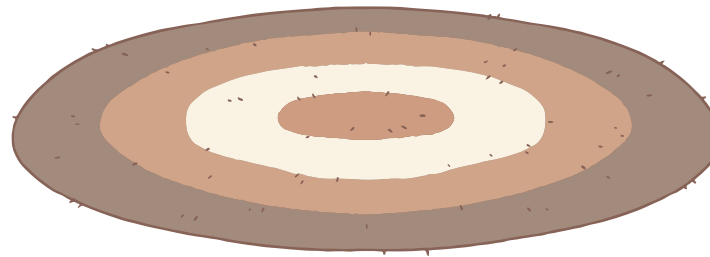
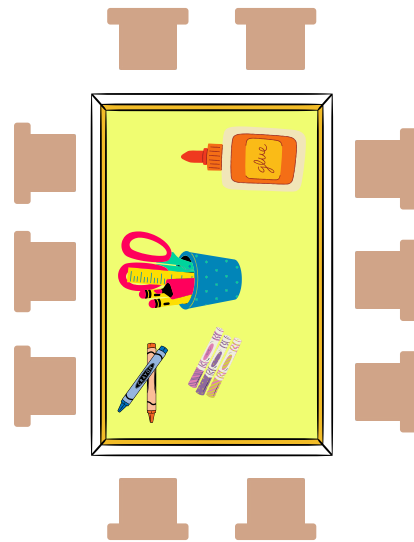
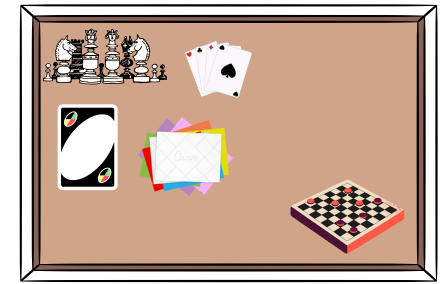
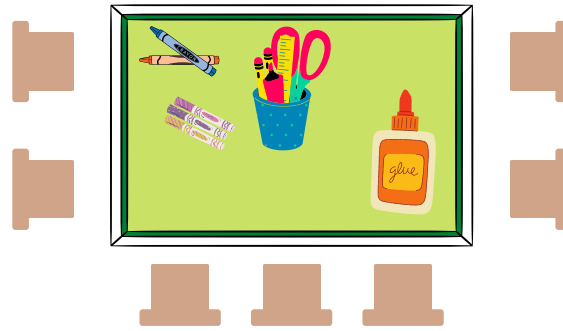
Please note that a QR Code



contains a hyperlink

In the program, the complementary materials are identified as "Title of Art"

Possible Room Layout

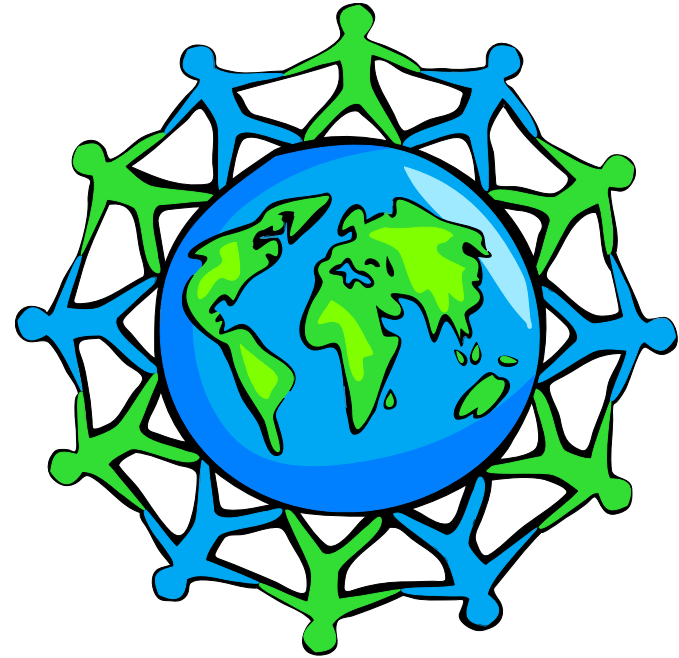


- Under the tables, extra activities can be stored in boxes, so that the main table can be refreshed after each break.
- Protect the tables with washable cloth or plastic.
- Posters can be displayed on the walls.

Suggested Timetable

1/2 hour (30 Minutes)	<i>Orientation</i>	Room layout, agenda for the day, location of bathrooms, identify assistants and teachers
3/4 hour (45 minutes)	<i>Activity</i>	Choose one of the themed activities. <i>(Note that about 15 minutes will be used to gather the materials, explain the activity, and then clean up afterwards.)</i>
1/4 hour (15 minutes)	<i>Break</i>	Visit the activity tables, grab a snack, visit the bathroom, do some stretches
3/4 hour (45 minutes)	<i>Free time</i>	Choose one of the games or activities from the tables, or read a book, or socialise with others
1/4 hour (15 minutes)	<i>Break</i>	Clean up, grab a snack, visit the bathroom
3/4 hour (45 minutes)	<i>Activity</i>	Choose one of the themed activities
1 hour 1/4 (75 minutes)	<i>Break</i>	Have lunch, visit a playground, play a group game, or do another group activity

Theme 1
**Bahá'u'lláh's
vision for
humanity**



"...as the wider society embraces many aspects of Bahá'í community life and imbibes its unifying spirit, the dynamics thus created allow diverse groups to come together in a combined movement inspired by Bahá'u'lláh's vision of the oneness of humanity."

The Universal House of Justice, from a message dated 30 December 2021, to the Conference of the Continental Boards of Counsellors

THEME 1

Craft

- Make a large drawing of "Tree of Virtues".
- Cut out the shape of your hand, write a virtue and draw it in action. Glue it to the "Tree of Virtues"

Pre-school (3-5yrs old)

- Learn "Ye are the fruits of one tree"
- Colour "Sun" "Waves" or "Fruit"
- Draw "5 senses", discuss how senses teach us about our world and how our senses can make us feel joy or sorrow.

Children (6-8yrs old)

- Learn "Ye are the fruits of one tree"
- Complete "5 senses", discuss how we learn about the world and that every person has these powers.
- Using "Virtues", consult on the meaning of a virtue and draw an example of it in action.

Children (9-11yrs old)

- Complete the "5 senses" and discuss the quotation. Draw an example of one sense being used.
- Choose one of the "Virtues", consult on its meaning and share a story.
- "Virtues" charades: split into two groups and take turns acting out a virtue while the others guess.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

Discuss and draw the "powers of the spirit".

"Man has also spiritual powers: imagination, which conceives things; thought, which reflects upon realities; comprehension, which comprehends realities; memory, which retains whatever man imagines, thinks and comprehends. The intermediary between the five outward powers and the inward powers ... is termed the common faculty, because it communicates between the outward and inward powers and thus is common to the outward and inward powers." - Bahá'í Writings

OPTIONAL SONG

Learn "One Tree" and colour the page

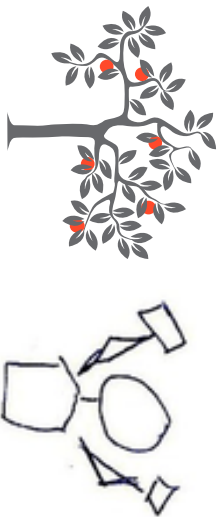
"An empowering global anthem to inspire unity, oneness and hope. When we think of ourselves as 'fruit of one tree', we recognize an innate oneness, Featuring 88 participants from 25 countries and territories, 'One Tree' is another 'World Collaboration'..." - Ali Youssefi

THEME 1

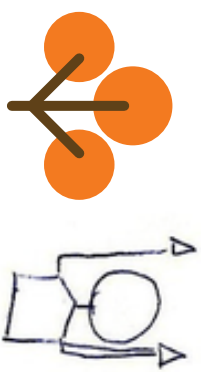
YE ARE THE...

Glue images from magazines or draw in the spaces provided below. Learn the rhythm of the song from the QR code.

"YE ARE THE FRUITS
« VOUS ÊTES LES FRUITS



OF ONE TREE,
D'UN SEUL ARBRE,



AND THE LEAVES
ET LES FEUILLES



OF ONE BRANCH,"
D'UNE SEULE BRANCHE.»



"O God, teach us Thy Oneness and give us a realization of Thy Unity, that we may see no one save Thee. Thou art the Merciful and the Giver of bounty!"



Quotations from the Bahá'í Writings

Art by Karine Lavoie

THEME 1

Sun

Write the names of your friends in the rays.



"Gather all people
beneath the shadow of Thy bounty
and cause them to unite in harmony,
so that they may become
as the rays of one sun,
as the waves of one ocean,
and as the fruit of one tree."
- Bahá'í Writings -

THEME 1

Waves

Join several sheets of paper together or use a roll of paper to draw waves from one end to the other. The children will take turns colouring a wave, drawing their piece of art and writing their names. Tape the display around the room when complete.



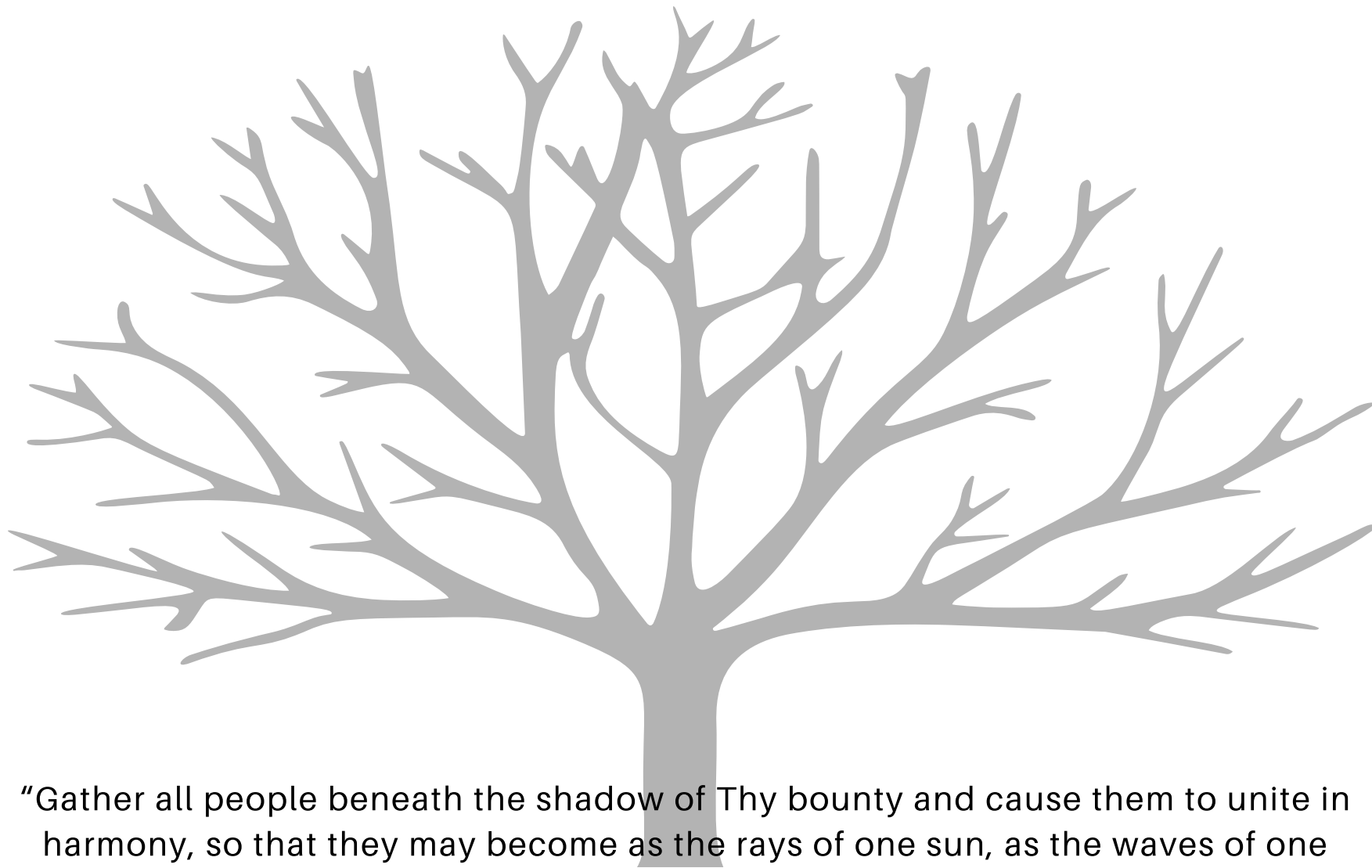
"Gather all people
beneath the shadow of Thy bounty
and cause them to unite in harmony,
so that they may become
as the rays of one sun,
as the waves of one ocean,
and as the fruit of one tree."

- Bahá'í Writings -

THEME 1

Fruit

Draw leaves and fruits on the tree.



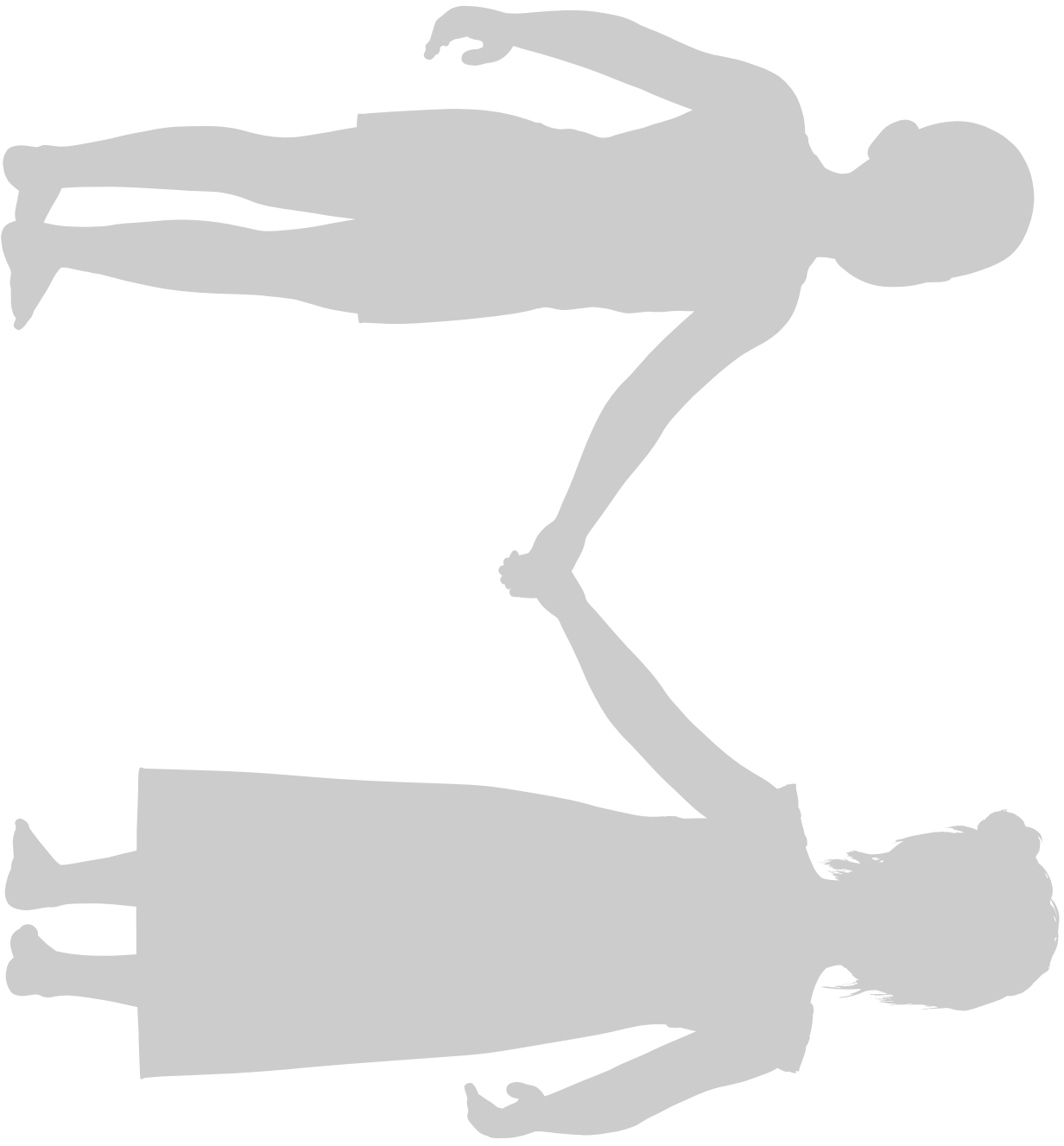
"Gather all people beneath the shadow of Thy bounty and cause them to unite in harmony, so that they may become as the rays of one sun, as the waves of one ocean, and as the fruit of one tree."

- Bahá'í Writings -

THEME 1

5 SENSES

Draw the 5 senses and discuss how each sense can be used to learn about our world and how what we sense can bring joy or sorrow.



"In man five outer powers exist, which are the agents of perception—that is to say, through these five powers man perceives material beings. These are sight, which perceives visible forms, hearing, which perceives audible sounds, smell, which perceives odors, taste, which perceives foods, and feeling, which is in all parts of the body and perceives tangible things. These five powers perceive outward existences."

The Bahá'í Writings

THEME 1

VIRTUES



PURITY OF HEART
LA PURETÉ

FORGIVENESS
LE PARDON

TRUSTWORTHINESS
DIGNE DE CONFIANCE

LOVE
L'AMOUR

GENEROSITY
LA GÉNÉROSITÉ

KINDNESS
LA BONTÉ

STEADFASTNESS
LA FERMETÉ

RADIANCE
RAYONNEMENT

JUSTICE
LA JUSTICE

SELFLESSNESS
L'OUBLI DU MOI

COMPASSION
LA COMPASSION

FAITHFULNESS
LA FIDÉLITÉ

HONESTY
L'HONNÊTÉTÉ

CONTENTMENT
LE CONTENTEMENT

THANKFULNESS
LA GRATITUDE

JOYFULNESS
LA JOIE

DETACHMENT
LE DÉTACHEMENT

TRUTHFULNESS
LA VÉRACITÉ

ENKINDLEMENT
L'ARDEUR

SINCERITY
LA SINCÉRITÉ

HUMILITY
L'HUMILITÉ

PATIENCE
LA PATIENCE

HOPEFULNESS
L'ESPÉRANCE

COURAGE
LE COURAGE

THEME 1

TREE OF VIRTUES

Make a large drawing of a tree trunk on a large piece of paper. Using coloured or construction paper, cut out the shape of your hand, write a virtue on it and draw the virtue in action. Glue the hand to the tree.



THEME 1

POWERS OF THE SPIRIT

Discuss the quotation below and draw the "powers of the spirit".

"... sight is one of the outer powers; it sees and perceives this flower, and conveys this perception to the inner power -the common faculty-which transmits this perception to the power of imagination, which in its turn conceives and forms this image and transmits it to the power of thought; the power of thought reflects and, having grasped the reality, conveys it to the power of comprehension; the comprehension, when it has comprehended it, delivers the image of the object perceived to the memory, and the memory keeps it in its repository.

The outward powers are five: the power of sight, of hearing, of taste, of smell and of feeling.

The inner powers are also five: the common faculty, and the powers of imagination, thought, comprehension and memory." - The Bahá'í Writings

THEME 1

One Tree

"Gather all people

beneath the shadow of Thy bounty

and cause them to unite in harmony,

so that they may become

as the rays of one sun,

as the waves of one ocean,

and as the fruit of one tree."

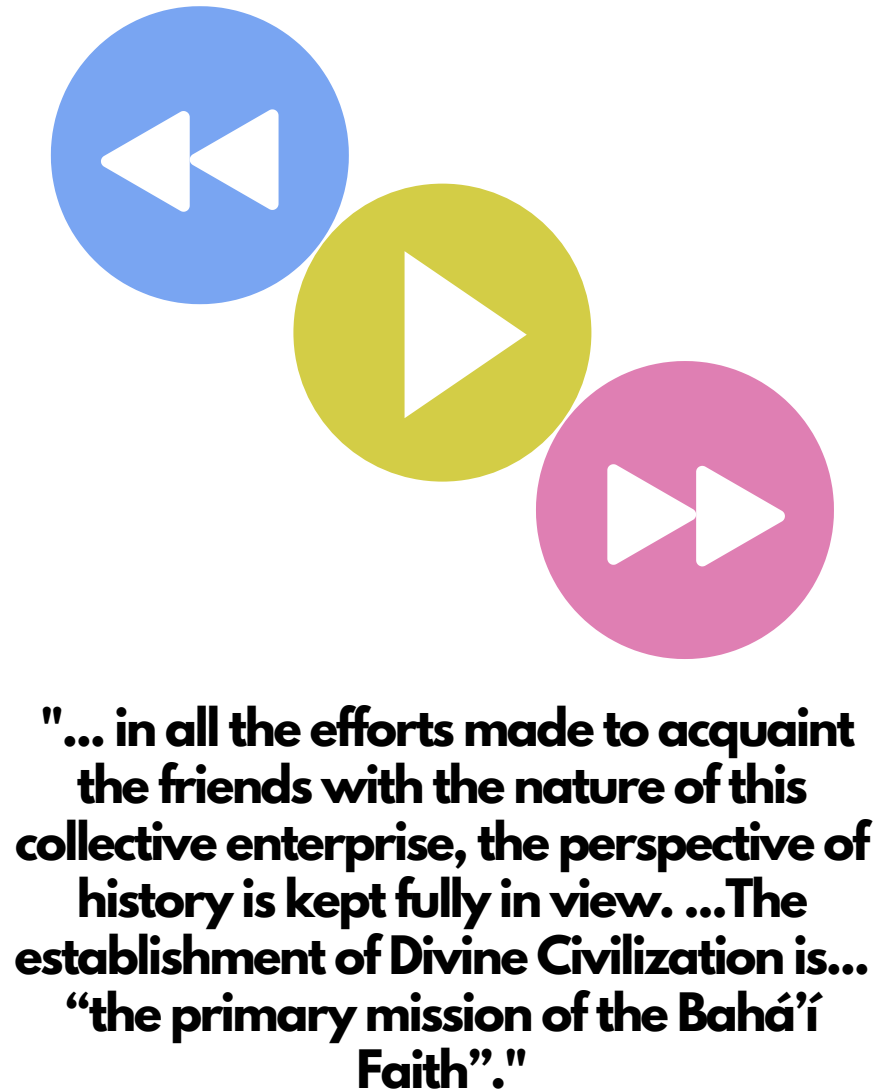
- 'Abdu'l-Bahá

LYRICS FOR SONG "ONE TREE" BY ALI YOUSSEFI
[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/NS1RBSROGNG](https://youtu.be/NS1RBSROGNG)



Theme 2

Distance traversed



**"... in all the efforts made to acquaint the friends with the nature of this collective enterprise, the perspective of history is kept fully in view. ...The establishment of Divine Civilization is...
"the primary mission of the Bahá'í Faith"."**

The Universal House of Justice, from a message dated 30 December 2021, to the Conference of the Continental Boards of Counsellors

THEME 2

Song & Craft

- Learn, with sign language, "O God, guide me"
- Make a "Jumping Frog" that journeys along a path, with obstacles, around the classroom.

Pre-school (3-5yrs old)

- Colour "O God, guide me"
- Colour "100" and talk about what makes people happy
- Cut out images that can be glued in "Stages of Growth"

Children (6-8yrs old)

- Colour "100" and discuss how advances in technology have improved daily life
- Draw the "Stages of Growth" and discuss the different strengths and abilities at each stage

Children (9-11yrs old)

- Learn, with sign language, "O God, guide me"
- Discuss how arts, sciences and technology have improved daily life
- Act out the "Stages of Growth" and discuss how each person goes through these stages and has similar challenges and opportunities.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

"...it is incumbent upon all mankind to become fitted for some useful trade, craft or profession by which subsistence may be assured, and this efficiency is to be considered as an act of worship."

- The Bahá'í Writings -

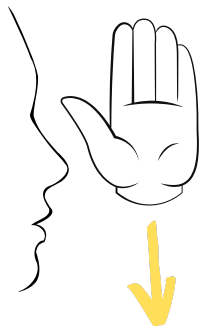
Discuss careers in crafts, trades or professions that and draw the stages of life that will take you through the next 25 years.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

Create a "Time Travel Maze" where you visually explore the five themes.

THEME 2

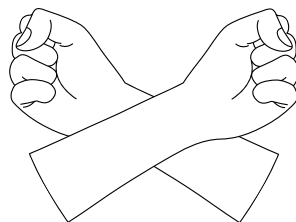
Learn how to sing this prayer, using these movements. It would be useful to watch Andrea Hope's video.



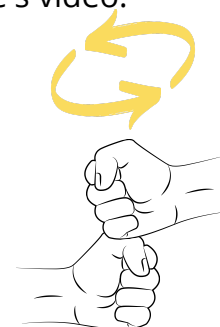
O GOD,



GUIDE ME



PROTECT ME



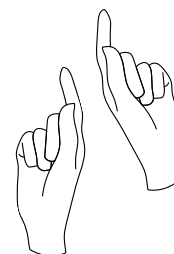
MAKE OF ME



A SHINING LAMP



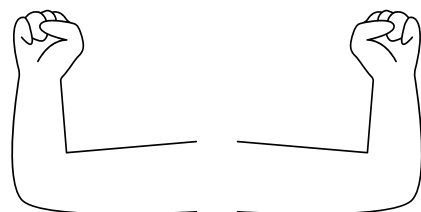
AND



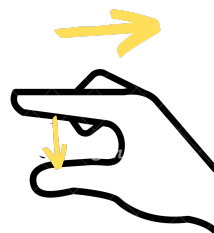
BRILLIANT STAR



THOU ART



THE MIGHTY



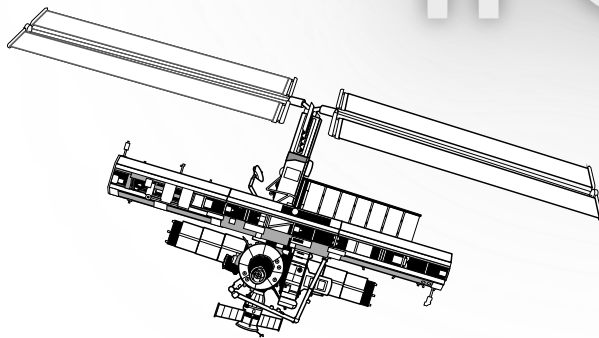
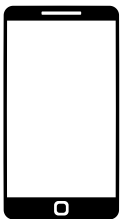
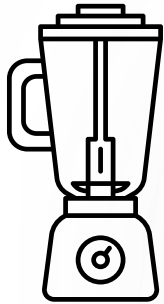
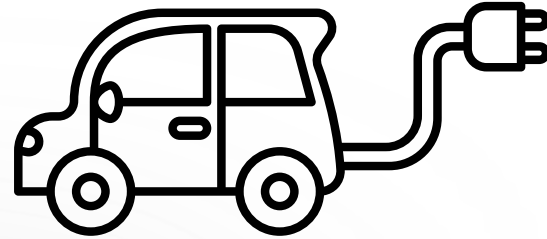
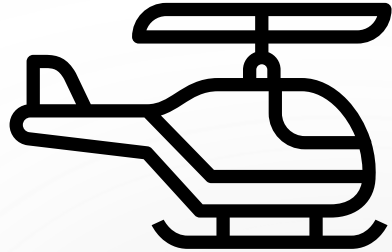
AND



THE POWERFUL.

THEME 2

Discuss how skills and capacities in arts, sciences, professions can contribute to the well-being of all the peoples on the planet.



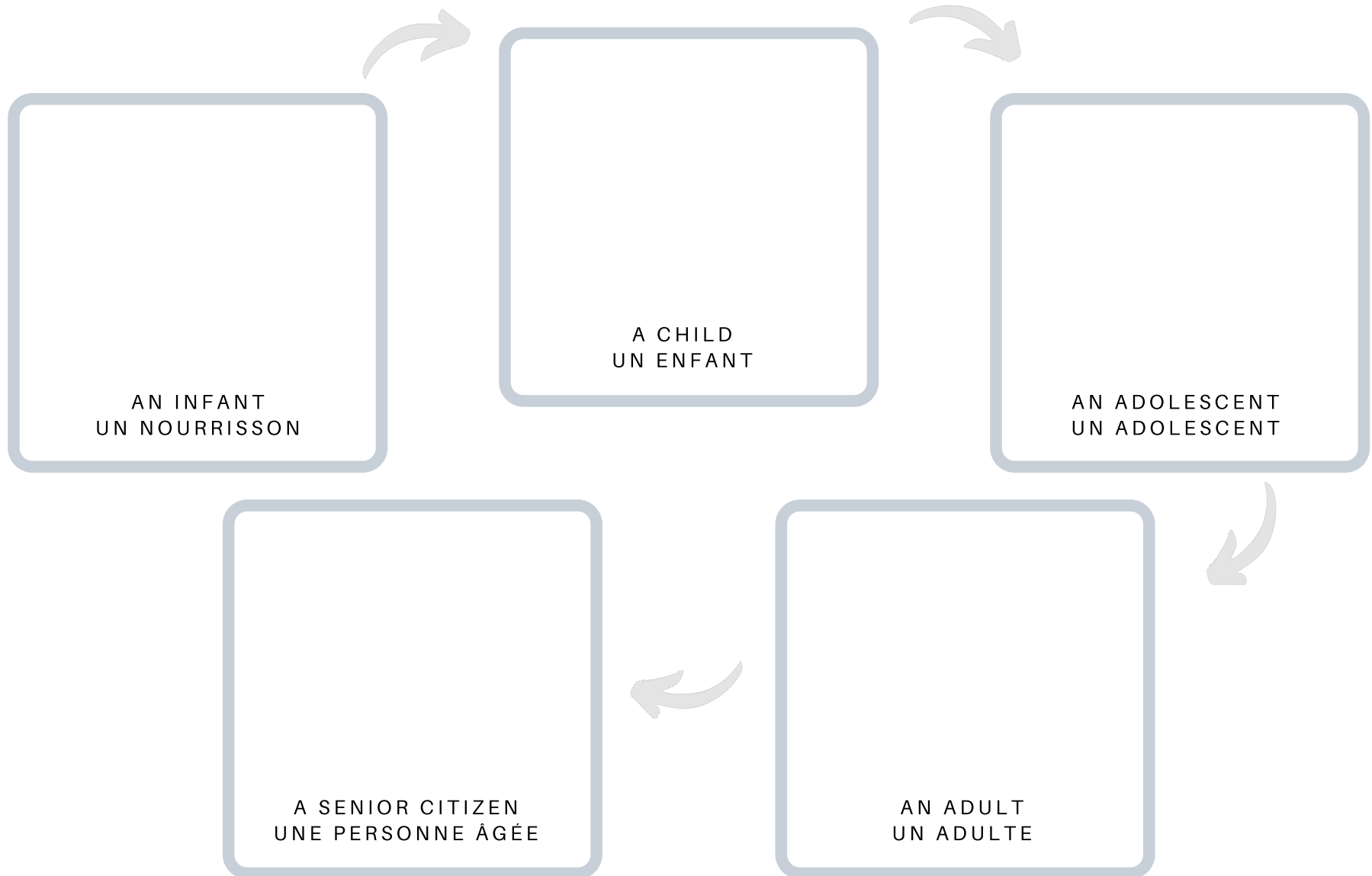
100



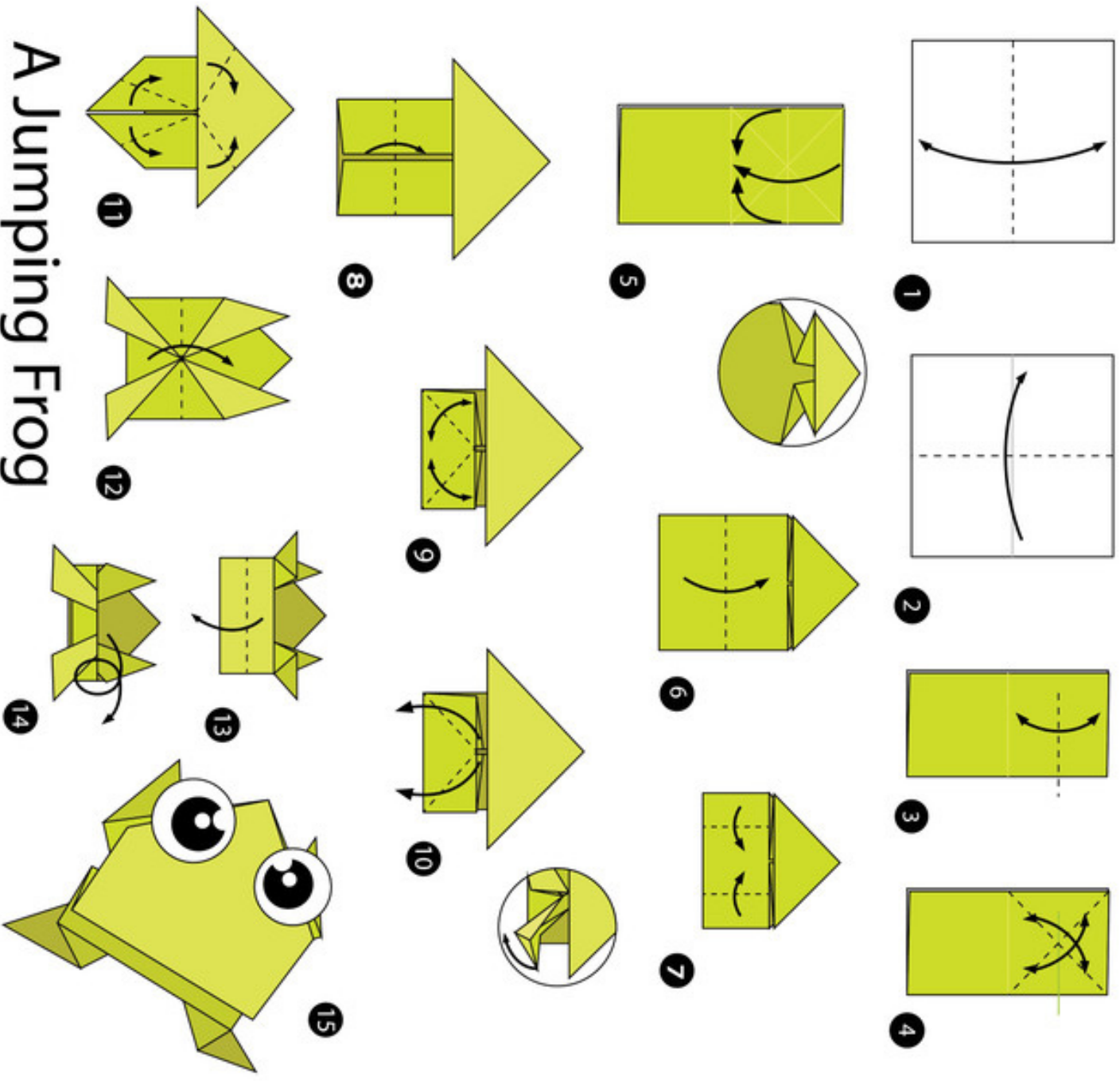
THEME 2

STAGES OF GROWTH

Draw people at different stages of growth in the squares, or cut images out of magazines and glue them into the squares. Discuss how each stage has abilities and skills that can contribute to the betterment of the world.



JUMPING FROG



A Jumping Frog



THEME 2

25 YEARS

What have you accomplished in the last 5 years? Looking at the next 5 to 25 years, what crafts, sciences, trades and professions will guide your choices? How will these choices lead to the betterment of the world?



Theme 3
**Building
vibrant
communities**

"...Bahá'u'lláh's followers welcome all who labour alongside them in this undertaking. It means learning how to raise up vibrant, outward-looking communities..."

The Universal House of Justice, from a message dated 30 December 2021, to the Conference of the Continental Boards of Counsellors

THEME 3

Yoga & Song

- Watch and follow "[Safari Adventure](#)"
- Learn "Blessed is the spot" with movements

Pre-school (3-5yrs old)

- Colour "Blessed is the spot"
- Colour "Worship" and demonstrate reverence and meditation.

Children (6-8yrs old)

- Colour "Worship" and discuss ways of worshipping
- Colour "Blessed is the spot" and discuss where prayers can be said
- Discuss how "Service" is a way of worshipping and draw the ways you serve your family, friends, neighbours and community

Children (9-11yrs old)

- Using "Service" make a daily list of chores you will do when you return home
- On a large paper, copy "Concentric Circle", discuss with your peers the different peoples you know who would belong in each of the categories labelled a-e. Discuss how you can invite more people from the outer circles to your inner circles

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

Make a "Prayer Mat"

Using foam squares from Dollarama, prepare the "Prayer Mat". The children may use these to sit on when being meditative or saying a prayer, or they may decorate it and prop it on a side table at home.

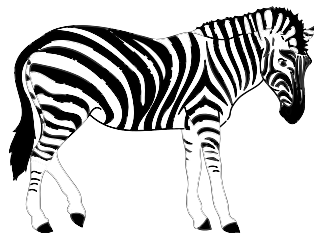
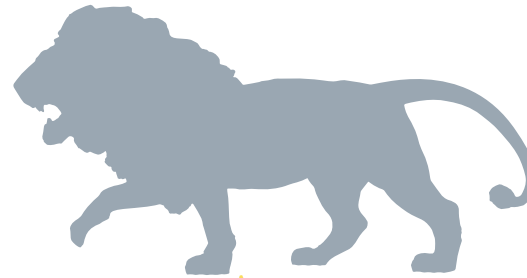
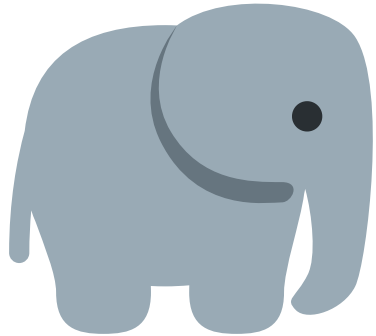
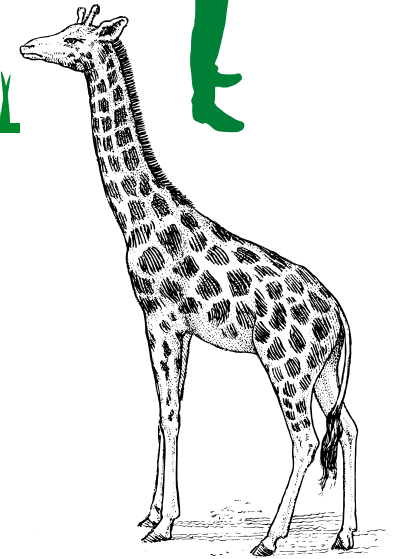
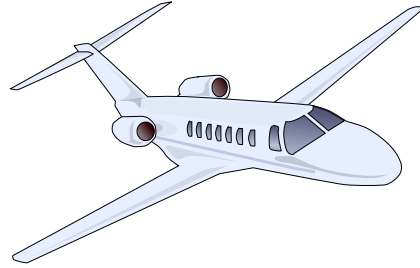
OPTIONAL SONG

"Hooray for the World"

Sing Red Grammer's "[Hooray for the World](#)"

THEME 3

Safari Adventure Yoga

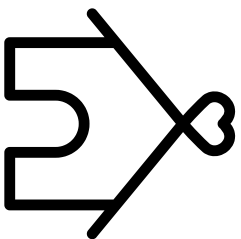


THEME 3

Blessed is the spot



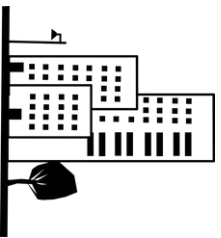
Blessed is the spot,



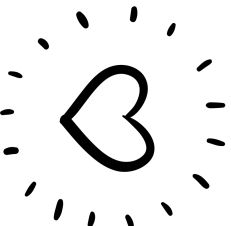
and the house,



and the place,



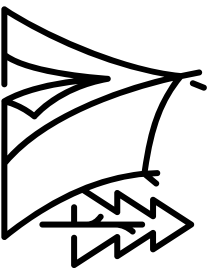
and the city,



and the heart,



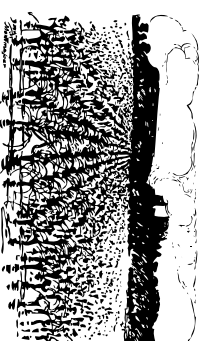
and the mountain,



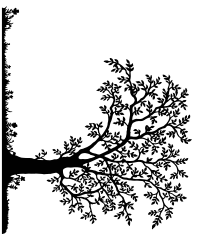
and the refuge,



and the cave,



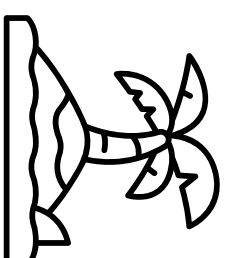
and the valley,



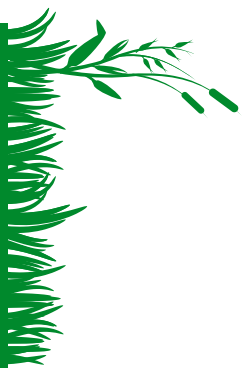
and the land,



and the sea,



and the island,



and the meadow where mention of God hath been made,
and His praise glorified.

The Bahá'í Writings

THEME 3

Blessed is the spot

(Native American sign language)



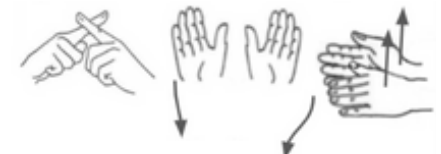
Blessed is the spot,



and the house,



and the place,



and the city,



and the heart,



and the mountain,



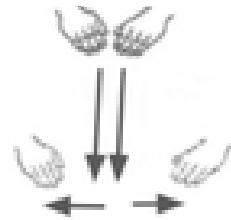
and the refuge,



and the cave,



and the valley,



and the land,



and the sea,



and the island,



and the meadow



where mention of God



hath been made,



and His praise glorified.

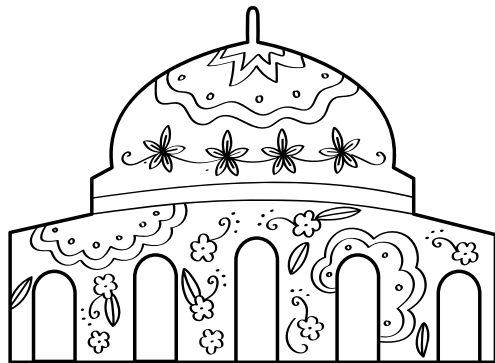
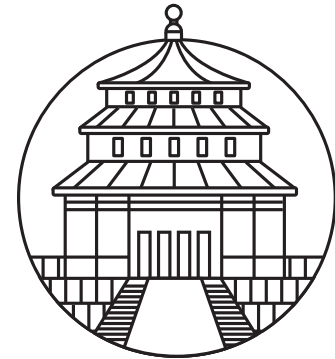
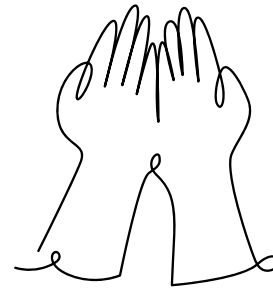
Assembled, modified and adapted by P & C Maloney based on Kevin Locke's video:

<https://youtu.be/orqXkStNpR4>

THEME 3

Worship

Discuss how hearts connect with God through prayer and meditation.



THEME 3

Service

Discuss how "Work done in the spirit of service is the highest form of worship."

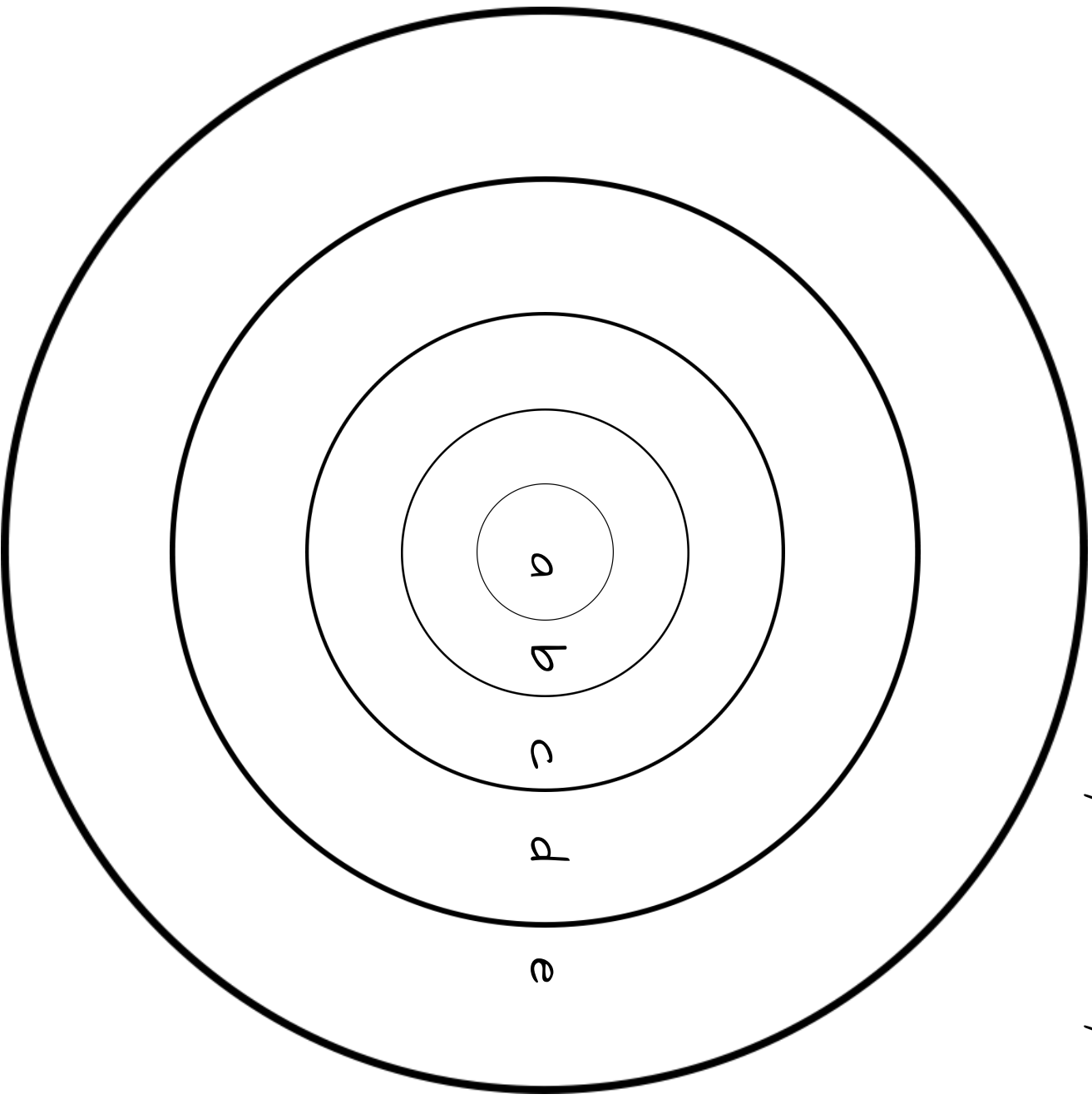


THEME 3

Concentric Circles

Fill in the blanks and discuss how we are all connected and can positively influence one another's lives.

- a - you
- b - your family
- c - your friends
- d - your acquaintances
- e - your community

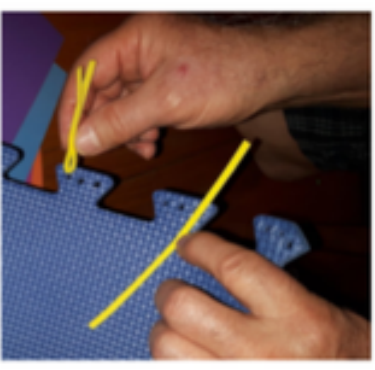


THEME 3

Prayer Mat Craft

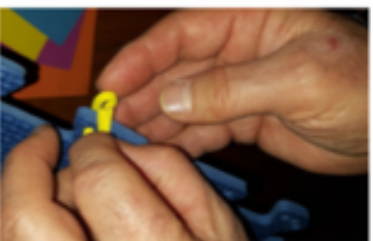


Materials Needed: Interlocking play mats (15.2"X15.2"), foam sheets (8.5" X 5.5"), scissors, leather hole puncher



1. Using the biggest hole setting on the leather puncher, punch 3 holes in each tab equally spaced.

2. Cut thin strips of foam sheet (less than $\frac{1}{4}$ " X $5 \frac{1}{2}$ ").



3. Fold strip in half and push the folded end into the hole. Open the folded end as a loop and pass the other ends through the loop.



4. Pull and position to form and secure the tassel. 5. Repeat steps for the other holes.

Developed by P&C Maloney for
Worldwide Conferences,
Centenary of the Ascension of
'Abdu'l-Bahá, Children's
Program, Quebec, 2022

THEME 3

Hooray for the world

Chorus

Hooray for the world I'm glad to be on it
Hooray for the world I'm glad to be on it
Hooray for the world it's a special place
We've got Mother Nature and the human race
The world's got buffalo, the world's got bees
The world's got jelly fish swimmin' in the seas
We've got beavers and bears, bats and bugs
Miniature poodles and slimy old slugs...Oh

Chorus

The world's got salami, the world's got cheese
We got maple syrup and mulberries
We got egg foo young, bagels and lox
Corn on the cob and raisins in a box...Oh

Chorus

We got moms and dads, uncles and aunts
Brothers, sisters, grandmas and gramps
We got neighbors next door, kids down the street
Everywhere we go we've got new friends to

meet...Oh

Chorus



Theme 4

Educational endeavours



"...one strong indicator of an institute's effectiveness is the thirst it cultivates within those who engage with its materials to continue to study the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh—individually, but also collectively, whether in formal spaces created by the institutions or in more informal settings."

The Universal House of Justice, from a message dated 30 December 2021, to the Conference of the Continental Boards of Counsellors

THEME 4

Pre-school (3-5yrs old)

- Colour "Educate these children" while listening to the song
- Sing songs related to "Alphabet and Numbers" and talk about letters and numbers can be used in our lives
- Complete "Signs from the Worlds of God"

Children (6-8yrs old)

- Colour "Educate these children" and talk about children as plants - what do they need to grow so that they can produce edible fruit?
- Make a big drawing of "Signs from the Worlds of God". Discuss its meaning and decide together on what should be drawn.
- Complete "Need of an Cultivator" and talk about the result of an absence of an educator

Children (9-11yrs old)

- Study "Educate these children" and discuss its meaning
- Make a big drawing of "Signs from the Worlds of God". Discuss its meaning and decide together on what should be drawn.
- Complete "Need of an Cultivator" and discuss its meaning

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

Nature Scavenger Hunt

Weather and safety permitting, the children can be accompanied to an outdoor activity where they will draw or list items that would fall into the "Signs from the Worlds of God".

Here are some examples of signs from each of the worlds:

- mineral: rocks, sugar, salt, penny, jewellery, pencil lead, magnet
- vegetable: grass, leaves, twigs, wooden furniture, cotton clothing
- animal: pets, wild animals, fur, leather,
- human: buildings, cars

OPTIONAL SONG

4 Kindgoms



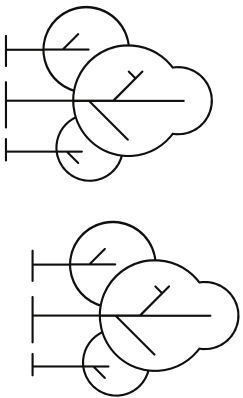
Listen to Nancy Ward's "4 Kingdoms" song at:
<https://www.nancywardmusic.com/wewanto growup>

THEME 4

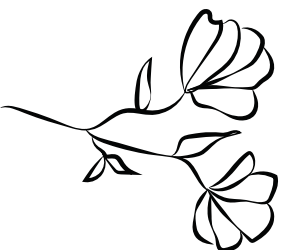
Educate these children

O God!

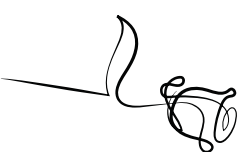
Educate these children.



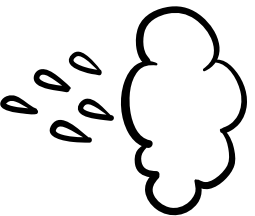
These children are the plants of Thine orchard,



the flowers of Thy meadow,



the roses of Thy garden.



Let Thy rain fall upon them;



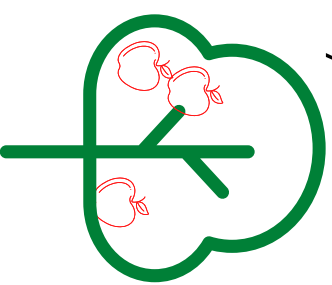
let the Sun of Reality shine upon them with Thy love.



Let Thy breeze refresh them in order that they may be trained,



grow and develop, and appear in the utmost beauty.



Thou art the Giver. Thou art the Compassionate.

– 'Abdu'l-Bahá –



THEME 4

Letters & Numbers

A B C D E

1 2 3

F G H I J K

4 5 6

L M N O P

7 8 9

Q R S T U

V W X Y Z

0

THEME 4

SIGNS FROM THE WORLDS OF GOD

Draw or list things from the different worlds and discuss how we are interconnected.

MINERAL WORLD

PLANT WORLD

ANIMAL WORLD

HUMAN WORLD

THEME 4

Need of a Cultivator

Draw a jungle with useless weeds

Draw a farmer working in a garden

Which ground can produce
food for animals and humans?

"If the earth is not cultivated, it becomes a jungle where useless weeds grow; but if a cultivator comes and tills the ground, it produces crops which nourish living creatures. It is evident, therefore, that the soil needs the cultivation of the farmer."

- The Bahá'í Writings -

THEME 4

3 Kinds of Education

MATERIAL EDUCATION

"Material education is concerned with the progress and development of the body, through gaining its sustenance, its material comfort and ease. This education is common to animals and man."

HUMAN EDUCATION

"Human education signifies civilization and progress—that is to say, government, administration, charitable works, trades, arts and handicrafts, sciences, great inventions and discoveries and elaborate institutions, which are the activities essential to man as distinguished from the animal."

SPIRITUAL EDUCATION

"Divine education is that of the Kingdom of God: it consists in acquiring divine perfections, and this is true education; for in this state man becomes the focus of divine blessings, the manifestation of the words, "Let Us make man in Our image, and after Our likeness." This is the goal of the world of humanity."

Theme 5

Contributing to social transformation

"... the social environment provides the “atmosphere” in which souls can “grow spiritually and reflect in full the light of God” shining through the Revelation. ”

The Universal House of Justice, from a message dated 30 December 2021, to the
Conference of the Continental Boards of Counsellors

THEME 5

Group Activity

- Learn the song "Let your eye be chaste" with movements

Pre-school (3-5yrs old)

- Colour "Let your eye be chaste" and discuss how we can make each other's lives better
- Decorate the room in "My House" to make it welcoming to everyone.

Children (6-8yrs old)

- Colour "Let your eye be chaste" and discuss its meaning
- Furnish "My House" and discuss how you will make everyone who visits it feel love.

Children (9-11yrs old)

- Discuss what buildings are being referred to in "Dream Village" and then make your own drawings.
- Discuss how crafts, sciences, and professions can contribute to the well-being of humankind. Draw how you will "Transform Society" using these tools.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY

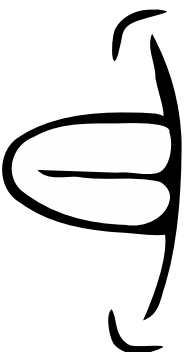
Community Garden

Accompany the children to a community garden and observe or assist the gardeners with their garden care e.g. weeding, watering, planting.

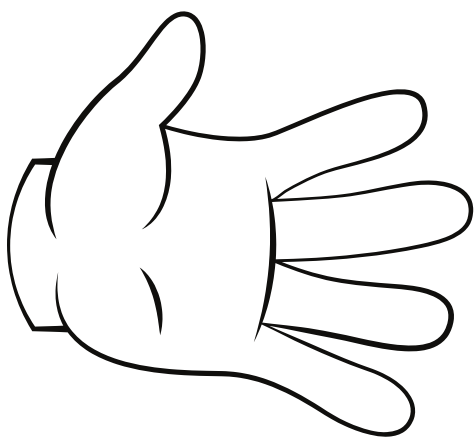
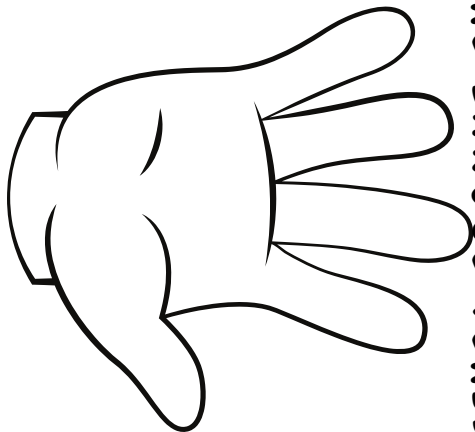
Draw or list the activities necessary when "Gardening" in order to produce food for living creatures.

THEME 5

**LET YOUR EYE BE CHASTE
QUE VOS YEUX SOIENT CHASTES**

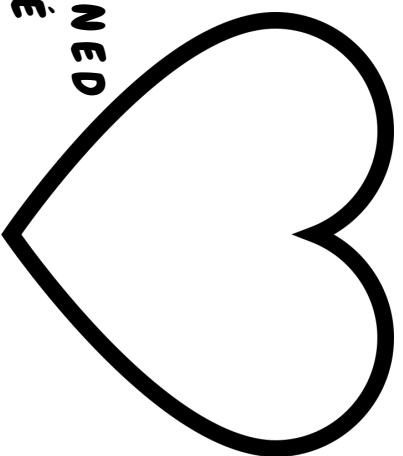


**YOUR TONGUE TRUTHFUL
VOTRE LANGUE VÉRIDIQUE**



**YOUR HAND FAITHFUL
VOTRE MAIN FIDÈLE**

**AND YOUR HEART ENLIGHTENED
ET VOTRE COEUR ÉCLAIRÉ**

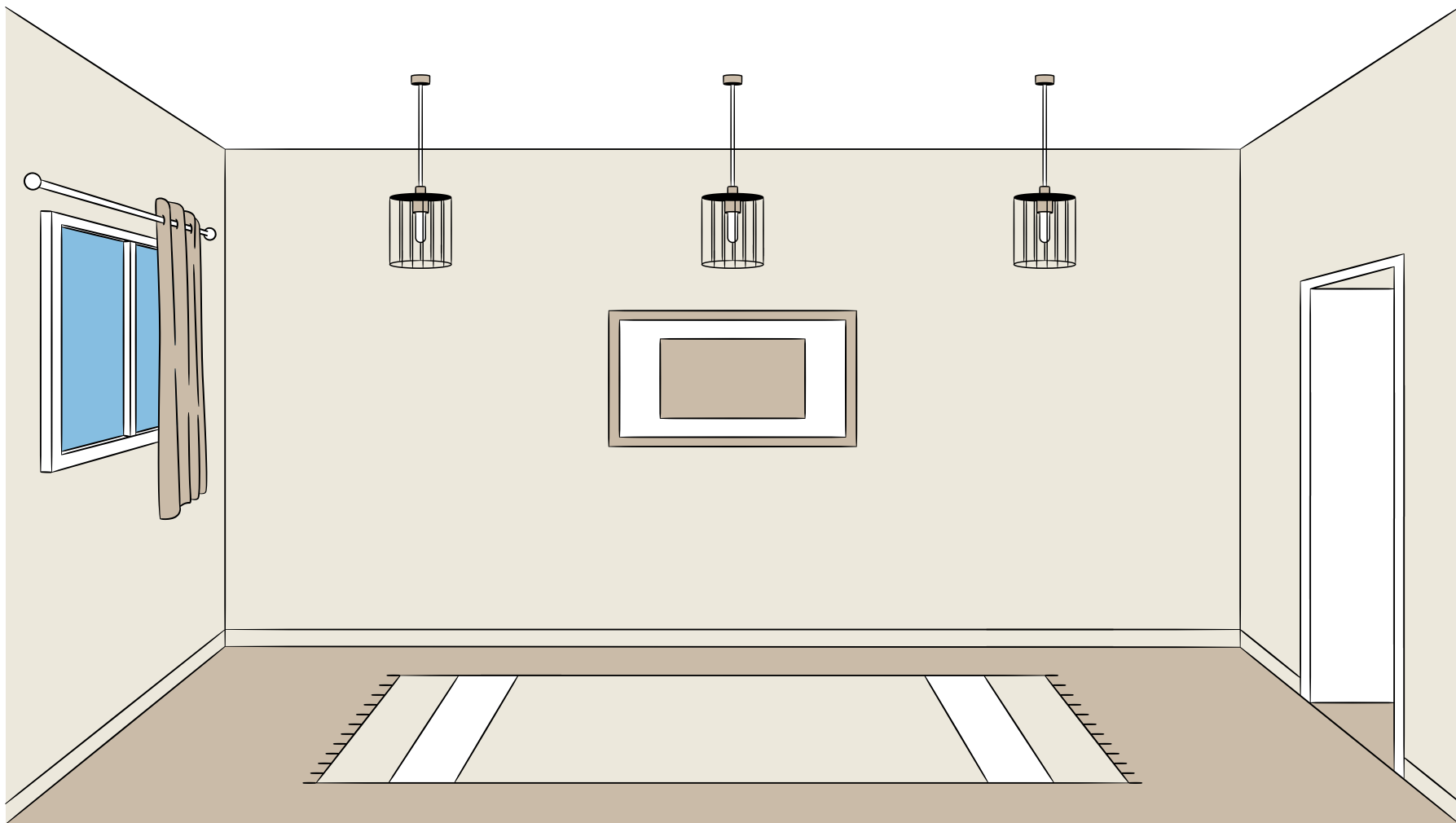


FROM THE BAHÀ'Í WRITINGS

THEME 5

MY HOUSE

Decorate the room to make it welcoming.. Where will your friends sit? What food or drink will you serve them? What books will you read together?

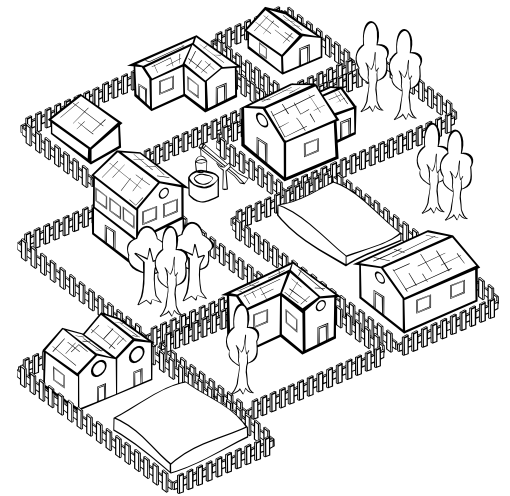
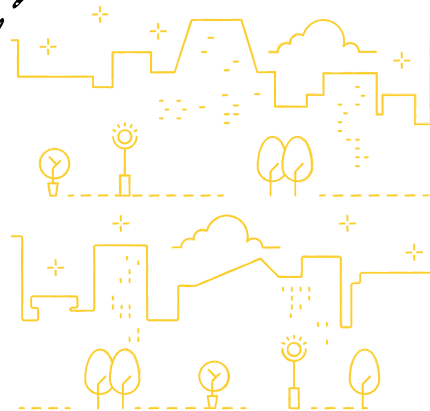


THEME 5

MY DREAM VILLAGE

Imagine you had to design a little village, at the center of the village was a house of meditation. Think about what buildings you can build in your village that will give:

- "relief to the suffering,
- sustenance to the poor,
- shelter to the wayfarer,
- solace to the bereaved,
- and education to the ignorant."



(QUOTE FROM THE BAHÁ'Í WRITINGS)

THEME 5

TRANSFORM SOCIETY

Using "Virtues" from Theme 1, discuss how these spiritual qualities can change the social, economic and cultural barriers so that everyone in your community can benefit from material and spiritual progress

THEME 5

GARDENING

What work needs to be done in a garden in order to have edible fruits and vegetables?